



MICHIGAN
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
P.O. Box 30014
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514

THE MINUTES OF THE HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
COMMERCE AND TRADE

Tuesday, March 17, 2015

10:30 a.m.

Room 519 House Office Building

The House Standing Committee on Commerce and Trade was called to order by **Representative Joseph Graves**, Chair.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Graves, Sheppard, Callton, Jenkins, Johnson, Rendon, Somerville, Hughes, Barrett, Garcia, Glenn, Leutheuser, Schor, Townsend, Byrd, Garrett, Geiss, Love and Moss.

MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED: None.

Representative Sheppard moved to adopt the minutes from the **March 10, 2015**, meeting. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Chair Graves opened the floor for a presentation from the:

Small Business Association of Michigan

PRESENTERS:

Rob Fowler, President, Small Business Association of Michigan (SBAM),
Diane Durance, President, MiQuest
Graham Toft, Ph.D., GrowthEconomics

Rob Fowler and **Diane Durance**, gave an overview of Michigan's entrepreneurship and submitted a handout to the committee members.

Graham Toft gave an overview of Michigan's entrepreneurial climate, entrepreneurial change and entrepreneurial vitality and what needs improvement. Growth capital, regulatory reform, tort reform, unemployment insurance tax structures, education, technology and workforce preparedness were areas suggested for Michigan's advancement.

Questions and discussion followed.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:39 a.m.

Representative Joseph Graves, Chair
House Standing Committee on Commerce and Trade
Malika Abdul-Basir
Committee Clerk
517-373-7256
1 Hour and 9 Minutes